

## ***Hydrographic Services Review Panel Work Group Tasking***

***Issue:*** National Ocean Service Mapping and Charting Contracting Policy and Expansion Strategy

***WG Assigned:*** 2

### ***Tasking and Deliverables:***

1. Review the June 19, 1996 “NOS Contracting Policy for Surveying and Mapping Services.” Does this existing policy promote private-sector contracting opportunities? Recommend changes to the policy? NOAA will provide the Workgroup with a summary of public comments on NOS contracting policy when available.
2. Provide recommendations and advice on how NOAA can work better with the private sector on improving its contracting strategies and expanding mapping and charting contracting opportunities.
3. The Hydrographic Services Improvement Act (HSIA) references the requirement for NOAA to “maintain operational expertise in hydrographic data acquisition and hydrographic services.” Provide advice on NOAA maintaining a “core capability” in hydrographic services (see HSIA for definition of hydrographic services). Provide advice and recommendations on what should constitute a NOAA core capability in hydrographic services and NOAA actions required to ensure the maintenance of a minimum core capability.

***Timeline:*** Provide recommendations to the full panel at the next HSRP meeting.

### ***Information Provided by NOAA:***

1. NOAA’s assessment of its core hydrographic services capability.
2. The June 19, 1996 “NOS Contracting Policy for Surveying and Mapping Services.”
3. U.S. Ocean Action Plan